THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) No new line work in Haryana was completed in the last three years. There are two ongoing new line projects as under:—

(i) Rewari-Rohtak new line (75 km.) is in progress with anticipated cost of Rs. 475.17 crore. Rewari-Jhajjar portion is targeted for completion during 2009-10 and Jhajjar-Rohtak during 2010-11. 4 Road Over Bridges, 30 Road Under Bridges, 37 Manned Level Crossings are proposed on this rail line project. No Unmanned Level Crossing is proposed.

(ii) Jind-Sonepat new line (81 km.) is in progress with anticipated cost of Rs. 385.95 crore. Land acquisition, bridgework, blanketing works are in progress. 2 Road Over Bridge, 34 Road Under Bridges and 40 Manned Level Crossings are proposed on this rail line. No Unmanned Level Crossing is proposed. No target date has yet been fixed.

The works are being progressed as per the availability of resources.

Frequency of trains

†1033. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the frequency of many trains have not been increased even after the announcement in Rail Budget and assurances in the House;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when their frequency are to be increased;

(c) whether the frequency of train No. 2447/2448 (Uttar Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express) has not been increased yet despite the announcement; and

(d) if so, the details of reasons for not increasing the frequency thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Increase in the frequency of 13 pairs of trains have been announced in the Railway Budget 2009-10. Of these, frequency of 4 pairs of trains has been increased, frequency of the remaining 9 pairs will be increased during 2009-10.

(c) and (d) Increase in the frequency of 2447/2448 Uttar Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints for the present.

Proposal of stoppage of train at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road

1034. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state in view of industrialization in Kalinga Nagar-Jajpur Road and Jajpur-Keonjhar being the centrally located place of Jajpur, Keonjhar, Kendrapada and Dhenkanal districts, whether Railways have the proposal of stoppage of Falaknuma Express; Coromandal Express and Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): There is no such proposal at present. Stoppage of additional trains at Jajpur Keonjhar Road has been examined but not found feasible.

Vacancies in Railways

1035. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies in Railways as on 31st October, 2009, category-wise;

(b) whether Government is going to fill up these vacant posts in Railways in near future;

(c) if so, the details of programme contemplated;

(d) whether regional languages would be considered the medium of interview while conducting recruitment; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The number of vacancies in zonal railways as on 31.03.2009 category- wise is 1704 in (A and B) category and 168109 in (C and D) category.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and the programme of the Government is to fill up these vacancies promptly as per laid down procedure through departmental promotions as well as through Railway Recruiting Agencies.

(d) and (e) Interview has been eliminated in most of the recruitment category examinations. Wherever interview is prescribed, the medium is Hindi or English.

Illegal selection for Group-D posts

1036. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 2000 people were illegally selected for Group-D posts in railways in 2007;

(b) if so, the details of persons recruited, division-wise and zone-wise;

(c) whether these persons were recruited without any examination; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Recommendation of Passenger Amenities Committee to attract foreign tourists

1037. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: